

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claim 10 without prejudice.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of identifying billing discrepancies, comprising:

receiving billing data from a billing entity, said billing data including an assessed fee and call details associated with each of a plurality of calls made by a customer;

identifying, based at least in part on said call details received from said billing data, rate information associated with said customer;

generating an expected fee for each of said plurality of calls; ~~and~~

comparing, for each of said plurality of calls, said expected fee with said assessed fee to identify discrepancies;

generating a database of the discrepancies;

running queries against call details associated with calls having discrepancies to determine whether overall charge for the calls having discrepancies varies based on length of each of the calls having discrepancies; and

characterizing at least one of the discrepancies as resulting from misapplication of a time dependent charge if a proportion of the discrepancies does not vary with length of the calls having discrepancies.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

analyzing each discrepancy to determine if each discrepancy is a billing error.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said analyzing further comprises:
analyzing the difference between said expected fee and said assessed fee to identify a pattern associated with a known surcharge.
4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said analyzing further comprises:
analyzing discrepancies associated with said billing data to identify discrepancies associated with fixed charges.
5. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said analyzing further comprises:
analyzing discrepancies associated with said billing data to identify discrepancies associated with time-based charges.
6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said billing data further includes rate information identified by said billing entity for each of said plurality of calls.
7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said identifying includes generating a set of customer data including said call details, said rate information associated with said customer, and said expected fee.
8. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
generating a set of discrepancies identified as billing errors.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

communicating said set of discrepancies identified as billing errors to said billing entity.

10. (canceled)

11. (new) A method of identifying billing discrepancies, comprising:

receiving billing data from a billing entity, said billing data including an assessed fee and call details associated with each of a plurality of calls made by a customer;

identifying, based at least in part on said call details received from said billing data, rate information associated with said customer;

generating an expected fee for each of said plurality of calls;

comparing, for each of said plurality of calls, said expected fee with said assessed fee to identify discrepancies;

generating a database of the discrepancies; and

running a query to identify discrepancies of substantially a fixed amount to identify calls placed from a public pay phone.